

component is woven within the fabric itself and is connected to an external monitor. The present invention, on the other hand, is connected to the "sensing component" of the '551. Next, in the '551 patent, the conductive fibers are insulated, while in the present invention, the fibers are individually conductive and non-insulated (see page 4, last paragraph). Finally, the conductive material of the present invention is in direct contact with the subject's skin, while the conductive fibers of the '551 patent are not.

Although there are several structural differences between the '551 patent and the claims of the present invention, Applicants submit the enclosed Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131. The Declaration attests to the fact that the present invention is a continuation of the work described in the '551 patent and that the present inventors, who are both named as co-inventors of the '551 patent, are the inventors of the present invention.

In light of the remarks set forth above and the evidence provided in the enclosed Declaration, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection over Jayaraman, U.S. Patent No. 6,145,551.

The Examiner noted that the term "information infrastructure" used in the present application does not find support in the parent application, the '551 patent. He further concludes that the term "cannot be said to be fully supported under 35 U.S.C. 112 by the earlier parent application." Applicants note that, in order to obtain the benefit of prior disclosures, the prior application need not provide *ipsis verbis* reference to a particular term. In fact, Applicants point out that the specification, at page 2, first paragraph, incorporates the '551 patent by reference in its entirety. It further describes the incorporated invention of the '551 patent as "capable of collecting data from several different types of sensors attached thereto, and transmitting the data through a single connector."

The '551 patent functionally describes an "information infrastructure" as the term is used herein. Note that page 3, lines 13-15 of the present application provides that the sensor may receive or transmit electrical signals and relay them to "the data output terminal, which relays the signals to a monitoring device." Likewise, the '551 patent, column 8, lines 10-16, states that

The ECC 25 can be used to monitor one or more body vital signs including heart rate, pulse rate, temperature and blood pressure through sensors on the body and for linking to a personal status monitor (PSM).

Applicants further note that the term "information infrastructure" is used in U.S. Patent No. 6,381,482 (U.S.S.N. 09/273,175) ("the '482 patent"), which is also a parent to the present application. The term is defined in the '482 patent as follows:

The information infrastructure component can include any or all of the following, individually or in any combination, penetration detection of components, electrically conductive components, sensors, processors, or wireless transmission devices.

Column 5, lines 14-19.

The function of the information infrastructure is defined at column 2, lines 40-45:

a flexible, wearable information infrastructure that will facilitate the "plugging" in of devices for gathering/processing information concerning its wearer utilizing the interconnection of electrical conductive fibers described below.

Thus, the term "information infrastructure" finds support in the '551 patent where the sensing component is described. Applicants further note column 6, lines 62-67:

After fashioning of the liner is completed, these materials can be connected to a monitor (referred to as a "personal status monitor" or "PSM") which will take readings from the sensing materials, monitor the readings and issue an alert depending upon the readings and desired settings from the monitor, as described in more detail below.

Although the '551 patent does not specifically use the term "information infrastructure," Applicants submit that the term is fully supported by the description of the '551 patent.

In light of the Declaration submitted herewith and the remarks provided above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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